

Message Text

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52

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 RSR-01 SSO-00 INRE-00

NSCE-00 SS-15 PM-09 NSC-10 INR-10 PA-03 PRS-01 DPW-01

IO-12 OMB-01 AID-20 /133 W

----- 037693

O R 261142 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3816

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL UDORN

USDEL JEC PARIS

USIA WASHDC

SECDEF

USDAO SAIGON

DIRNSA FT GG MEADE MD

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC HAWAII

COMUSMACTHAI

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CDR USSAG NKP

CDR 13 AF ADVON UDORN

DODSPECREP BANGKOK

DODSPECREP NKP

CHSPECATS BANGKOK

7 ACCS KORAT

56 SOW NKP

432 TRW UDORN

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CDR JCRC NKP

8 TFW UBON

ARMA/ AIRA VTN LAOS

ARMA/ AIRA SVKT LAOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 3212

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; 13 AF ADVON, 432 TRW, 56 SOW AND 8 TFW FOR
DO/ DI; MACTHAI FOR J2 AND PAO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: LAO SITUATION REPORT - APRIL 26

REF: VIENTIANE 3179

BEGIN SUMMARY: MILITARY - FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE CEASEFIRE,
THERE WERE NO RPT NO GROUND CONTACTS REPORTED. RLAF FLEW NO
SORTIES DURING PERIOD 24-25 APRIL. ONE PL SOLDIER RALLIED IN
MR V. SPOT REPORT INDICATED THAKHEK AMMO DEPOT EXPLODED 26
APRIL; NO SIGN OF ENEMY ACTIVITY. POLITICAL - SPECIAL ADVISOR
PHOUMI VONGVICHIT RETURNED TO VIENTIANE APRIL 26. PRIMIN,
COMMENTING ON U. S. AIR STRIKES, SAYS ENEMY MUST UNDERSTAND THERE
ARE LIMITS BEYOND WHICH IT MUST NOT GO. END SUMMARY

1. SECTION I - CEASEFIRE OBSERVANCE

A. MILITARY: NO GROUND ACTION REPORTED 24-25 APRIL COUNTRYWIDE.
RLAF FLEW NO SORTIES. ONE PL SOLDIER RALLIED APPROX 50 KM
NORTH OF VIENTIANE ON 24 APRIL. IN FAR NORTHWESTERN MR I,
THREATENED VILLAGE OF BAN HOUAY LAO (REFTEL) HAS BEEN REINFORCED
BY AIRLIFT OF UNDERSTRENGTH INFANTRY COMPANY.

B. SPOT REPORT INDICATES THAT SMALL AMMO DEPOT AT THAKHEK
EXPLODED MID- DAY 26 APRIL. THERE IS NO SIGN OF ENEMY ACTIVITY
BUT WE ARE WATCHING SITUATION CLOSELY.

C. COUNT OF CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS: RLG DEFMIN ANNOUNCED THREE
ADDITIONAL ENEMY CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, BRINGING TOTAL TO 434 AS
OF MORNING 23 APRIL. (COMMENT: OUR COUNT OF GROUND CONTACTS
INITIATED BY BOTH SIDES SHOWS TOTAL OF 105 MAJOR AND 560 MINOR
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INCIDENTS THROUGH 22 APRIL. END COMMENT) RLG DEFMIN, 26 APRIL,
ANNOUNCED THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE CEASEFIRE, NO
VIOLATION HAD BEEN RECORDED ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTRY AND THAT
MILITARY SITUATION, FOR THE LAST 48 HOURS, HAS BEEN " COMPLETELY
CALM."

2. SECTION II - POLITICAL SITUATION

A. PHOUMI VONGVICHIT RETURNS - AFTER ABSENCE OF MORE THAN TWO
MONTHS, LPF SPECIAL ADVISOR AND PLENIPOTENTIARY REPRESENTATIVE
AT PEACE TALKS, PHOUMI VONGVICHIT, RETURNED TO VIENTIANE
AFTERNOON APRIL 26. DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES OF USSR, PRC,
DRV AND LPF GREETED PHOUMI AT AIRPORT. PHOUMI HANDED OUT SHORT

STATEMENT AT AIRPORT DENOUNCING U. S. BOMBING AND ALLEGED CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS. ASKED BY REPORTERS IF HE AWARE OF COUP D' ETAT IN SAM NEUA, PHOUMI SAID HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT SUCH STORY. ASKED IF HE BROUGHT WITH HIM A LIST OF LPF CABINET MEMBERS, PHOUMI SAID HE COULD NOT YET GIVE AN ANSWER. RESPONDING TO OTHER QUESTIONS, PHOUMI SAID HE WOULD SEE PRIME MINISTER SOMETIME; BUT, AT THE MOMENT, HE (PHOUMI) WAS NOT FEELING WELL. PHOUMI ALSO SAID THAT HE COULD NOT FORETELL WHETHER THE NEW PGNU WOULD BE FORMED BEFORE THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (DUE TO CONVENE MAY 11).

B. PRIME MINISTER' S VIEWS ON ENEMY CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS: IN APRIL 24 INTERVIEW WITH KANSAS CITY STAR JOURNALIST, PRIME MINISTER REFERRED TO AMERICAN AIR SUPPORT, PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO RLG REQUEST, IN CASES OF ENEMY CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS IN PAKSONG AND THA VIANG. PRIMIN POINTED OUT THAT ENEMY MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THERE ARE LIMITS BEYOND WHICH IT MUST NOT GO. ONLY COMPLETE RESPECT FOR 1962 GENEVA ACCORDS, HE SAID, WILL ASSURE RETURN OF PEACE TO LAOS. " LAOS WOULD, IN SUCH ACASE," HE CONCLUDED, " BE ABLE TO SERVE AS LIAISON BETWEEN ITS NEIGHBORS IN CREATING AN ATMOSPHERE FOR BRINGING DEFINITIVE PEACE TO THIS PART OF THE WORLD."
DEAN

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JAKARTA
MOSCOW
PARIS
PHNOM PENH

SAIGON
OTTAWA
WARSAW
NEW DELHI
UDORN
JEC PARIS
USIA
SECDEF
USDAO SAIGON
DIRNSA FT GG MEADE MD
CINCPAC
CINCUSARPAC HAWAII
COMUSMACTHAI
DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI
CDR USSAG NKP
CDR AF F ADVON UDORN
DODSPECREP BANGKOK
DODSPECREP NKP
CHSPECAC TS BANGKOK
ACCS KORAT
SOW NKP
TRW UDORN
CDR R JCRC NKP
TFW UBON
ARMA AIRA A VTN LAOS
ARMA AIRA A SVKT LAOS
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